

Good Vacuum Cleaner Practices

- Follow vacuum cleaner manufacturers' guidelines for the proper use of their product.
- Vacuum high traffic areas often – ideally, twice a week or daily as needed.
- Inspect your vacuum cleaner periodically to be sure it is functioning properly.
- Keep brushes clean. Replace brushes when worn.
- Keep vacuum hoses and attachments free of obstructions.
- Inspect the vacuum head for rough edges that may damage carpet.
- Inspect belts frequently. Keep a spare belt for replacement as needed.
- Follow vacuum manufacturer's recommendation for proper filter bag. Change filter bag when dirt reaches "full line" and/or the dirty bag indicator is activated.



NOTES

The Carpet and Rug Institute
P.O. Box 2048—Dalton, GA 30722-2048

The Carpet and Rug Institute offers extensive information about carpet, installation, maintenance, and indoor air quality through their website at www.carpet-rug.org

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Why Test Vacuum Cleaners?



VACUUM CLEANER
INDOOR AIR QUALITY
TESTING PROGRAM

ID #:

Meets Carpet
Industry Standards for

- ✓ Soil Removal
- ✓ Dust Containment
- ✓ Appearance Retention

For Program Information
Carpet and Rug Institute
800-882-8846
www.carpet-rug.com

Why Test Vacuum Cleaners?

The impact of vacuum cleaners on indoor air quality and cleaning efficiency can vary significantly from machine to machine. It is important for consumers to be able to identify vacuum machine models that perform effectively to control dust and dirt in the indoor environment.

The carpet industry and participating vacuum cleaner manufacturers are committed to providing consumers with products that address good indoor air quality.

The Program

The Carpet and Rug Institute's (CRI) Vacuum Cleaner Indoor Air Quality Testing Program Green Label identifies vacuum cleaners that have been evaluated by an independent testing laboratory and have met the carpet industry standard for: **soil removal, dust containment, and carpet appearance retention.** Vacuum cleaners which meet the standard protect your carpet investment while minimizing the impact of vacuum cleaning on indoor air quality.

Participation by the manufacturer in the program is voluntary. A randomly selected unit of the designated model type is submitted to an independent testing laboratory by CRI. The protocol for testing was developed by the carpet and vacuum manufacturing industries and endorsed by scientists who are expert in the study of building maintenance and indoor air quality. Submitted machines must meet all three elements of the standard in order to display the CRI IAQ Testing Program Green Label.

Each CRI IAQ Green Label contains a number identifying the vacuum cleaner manufacturer. The purchaser may call CRI's toll free number 706-278-3176 to verify approval of the vacuum cleaner model using the I.D. number. A listing of machines in compliance with the program standard is also available at: www.carpet-rug.com.

The Standard

Soil Removal – The soil removal test requires that the vacuum cleaner must remove in 4 passes a satisfactory quantity of soil from standard test carpets.

Dust Containment – The dust containment test evaluates the total amount of dust particles released into the surrounding air by the action of the brush rolls, through the filtration bag, and any air leaks from the vacuum cleaner system. This standard requires that a vacuum cleaner release into the surrounding

environment no more than 100 micrograms of dust particles per cubic meter of air, which is below levels stated in the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

Carpet Appearance Retention – The test for appearance retention requires the vacuum cleaner to have minimal effect on carpet appearance after 200 passes, the equivalent of one year of normal vacuum use.

The amount of soil removed, dust generated, and surface appearance change generated in laboratory practice may differ from that in home or commercial installations.

**Look for the
CRI IAQ Green Label
identifying vacuum cleaners that
have met the carpet industry
consensus standard.**

